

WITNESS INFORMATION FORM

Please complete the Witness Information Form before testifying:

Date: November 9, 2024

Name: Sr. Kay Schneider

Representing Organization: The Tetrizzini Fellowship, an Independent Evangelical Congregation of the Church of the Flying Spaghetti Monster

Position/Title: Ordained Minister & Evangelist / Sister

Address: Unlisted for Security Purposes to Avoid Religious Persecution

City: Fairlawn State: OH Zip: 44333

Best Contact Email: TetrizziniFellowship@yahoo.com

Do you wish to be added to the committee notice email distribution list? Yes

Business before the committee

Legislation (Bill/Resolution Number): House Bill 445

Specific Issue: Regards school policies for release for religious instruction

Testifying as an: Opponent

Written Statement Only

(If yes, please send an electronic version of the documents, if possible, to the Chair's office prior to committee. You may also submit hard copies to the Chair's staff prior to committee.)

How much time will your testimony require?

One Minute Reading Time

Please provide a brief statement on your position:

I oppose HB 445 because it compels irreligious School Board Members to craft religious released time policies. This compulsion violates the First Amendment of the United States.

Please be advised that this form and any materials (written or otherwise) submitted or presented to this committee are records that may be requested by the public and may be published online.

Written Witness Statement - Opponent - Ohio House Bill 445

November 9, 2024

Dear Chair Manning, Vice Chair Fowler Arthur, Ranking Member Robinson and distinguished members of the Primary and Secondary Education Committee,

My name is Kay Schneider, I am a religious evangelist based in Northeast Ohio, and I oppose House Bill 445.

I have several reasons why I oppose HB 445; these being:

1. I'd Really Rather You Didn't compel irreligious school board members to adopt or establish religious released time policies, as this may run afoul of the First Amendment.
2. I'd Really Rather You Didn't add to the workload of school boards when they are already required to adopt or establish policies by at least 23 other sections (3313.20 to 3313.98) of the Ohio Revised Code.
3. I'd Really Rather You Didn't neglect to inform those in favor of increasing the workload of school boards that Section 3313.602 of the Ohio Revised Code already states:
“(B)... the board of education ... shall ensure that the principles of democracy and ethics are emphasized and discussed wherever appropriate in all parts of the curriculum for grades kindergarten through twelve.
(C) Each ... school board shall adopt policies that encourage all certificated and noncertificated employees to be cognizant of their roles in instilling ethical principles and democratic ideals in all district pupils.”
4. I'd Really Rather You Didn't give certain fantastically funded religious programs an unequal proselytizing advantage over religions that aren't equipped to indoctrinate children During School Hours.
5. I'd Really Rather You Didn't pass HB 445 because it could open a can of “noodles” that may be best left sealed.

Thank you for your time, your service to our state of Ohio, and for your consideration of my reasons for opposing HB 445.

May Peace and Pasta be with you,

Sister Kay Schneider
Evangelist, Tetrzzini Fellowship
tetrzzinifellowship@yahoo.com